

MAINE COASTAL PROGRAM



THE FIRST DECADE AND BEYOND

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COASTAL ZONE INFORMATION CENTER

Maine Coastal Zone Management Program
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FOREWORD

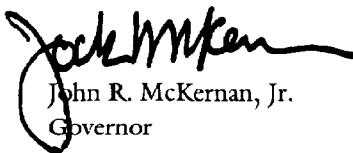
LOOKING OUT OVER ONE OF MAINE'S island-dotted bays, watching as the tide inches inward and gulls surf on gusts of wind, I am struck by the continuity of this coast amidst change.

The shores of Maine have changed dramatically in the last few decades, but their cultural and ecological integrity are intact. Maintaining that balance between conservation and appropriate development of our coastal resources is the task of the Maine Coastal Program, a unique working partnership of federal, state, and local interests.

This booklet chronicles some of the achievements made by the Coastal Program during its first decade. It offers a chance to reflect on the critical work that has been accomplished in Maine's coastal region, and to consider the tasks that lie ahead.

The next few years will be challenging ones for coastal Maine. Already, over 55 percent of Maine's population lives in the coastal area, which occupies only 12 percent of the state's land area. And 3,000 people move into Maine's coastal region each year, placing increased pressure on limited coastal resources.

As we prepare for the challenges ahead, we need to acknowledge the unique value, diversity, and sensitivity of Maine's coastal resources and reaffirm our commitment to coastal management.



John R. McKernan, Jr.
Governor

INTRODUCTION

THE MAINE COASTAL PROGRAM GREW out of federal legislation, enacted in 1972, that sought to “preserve, protect, develop, and where possible restore” our country’s coastal resources. The Coastal Zone Management Act (or CZMA as it became known) was a response to environmental concern over unprecedented development occurring at that time along the nation’s shores.

The CZMA encouraged states, in cooperation with federal and local governments, to develop unified policies and criteria for managing coastal lands and waters. The Act was intended to balance resource conservation with the need for energy development and economic growth, to resolve multiple-use conflicts in the coastal zone, and to devise measures for protecting valuable coastal resources.

Maine began to implement its federally approved coastal management program in 1978, building on groundwork laid during the preceding decade. In 1969, a Coastal Planning Group was established to conduct natural resource inventories and propose appropriate coastal management strategies for local and state government.

An Advisory Committee on Coastal Development and Conservation followed, in 1976, and began to focus on several critical coastal policy issues. For the next two years, the State Planning Office held public meetings and hearings throughout Maine’s coastal counties to ensure that the proposed Coastal Program would meet the needs of local communities. In 1978, the federal government approved Maine’s coastal management program. The Program is based on 13 of the state’s environmental and land use statutes, which pertain to air and water quality; siting of large projects; construction in wetlands and along beaches; shoreland zoning; solid waste sites; and marine resources. These statutes, most of which were enacted in the 60s and early 70s, were at the forefront of this country’s environmental legislation.

By the mid 1980s, the character and pace of coastal development prompted the State to reassess how its coastal area should be managed. In 1986, landmark legislation was enacted that extended the framework for state and local decisions affecting coastal resources. The legislation established nine state policies concerning harbor and shoreline development, public use of the shore, and the quality of coastal air and water resources. To implement these new policies, the Legislature amended several existing environmental laws. State agencies



and local governments are responsible, through their regulatory, planning, and financing decisions, for ensuring that these coastal policies are followed.

In 1988, the Legislature enacted the Comprehensive Planning law, which requires municipalities in Maine to prepare comprehensive plans and implement ordinances that would improve the management of coastal resources at the local level. In addition, the Legislature strengthened several environmental statutes so as to better conserve critical state resources.

Throughout the past decade, the Coastal Program has made significant progress in expanding public access opportunities to Maine's shore, conserving coastal resources, promoting sound coastal development, and strengthening Maine's marine industries. The following pages detail some of the Program's accomplishments in these areas, and discuss some of the work that remains to be done.

Richard H. Silkman
Director
State Planning Office

EXPANDING PUBLIC ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES TO MAINE'S SHORE

FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS, public demand for access to Maine's coast has increased while avenues to the shore have decreased. Maine's shoreline has become a national commodity, prompting new subdivisions and the construction of homes and businesses. The changing patterns of shoreland ownership have closed off many accessways used by clammers, worm-diggers, and beachgoers.

Only 6.4 percent of Maine's coastal area is publicly owned, yet the coast is a focal point for recreation and work among state residents and visitors alike. With rapid growth in coastal population, tourism, and development, the need for more public access to the shore is acute. With a year-round population of only 1.2 million, Maine is visited by more than 4.5 million tourists annually. As demand for public access has increased, Coastal Program funds have



helped more than 50 municipalities throughout Maine's coastal region explore and expand opportunities for the public to reach the shore.

- South Portland residents used Coastal Program and other funds to develop a waterfront plan and to implement their vision of a "greenway" along their urban waterfront. In 1976, South Portland citizens and community leaders began working together to restore a dilapidated section of the Spring Point waterfront and convert it into a community park. Today, several miles of shoreline walkways and small park areas attract in excess of 200,000 visitors a year.

- In the City of Belfast, the development of a harborfront park culminated several years' efforts to revitalize the city's waterfront area. Prior to the 1970s, the Belfast harbor had been too polluted to attract visitors. But as water quality improved in the late 1970s, a harbor committee was formed to consider shoreside improvements. Using a combination of Coastal, local, and federal funds, the City



Belfast Waterfront Park

made significant waterfront improvements, landscaped the area near the existing boat ramp, and constructed a breakwater to protect the docking and mooring area. Then, in 1985, the city bought a 3-acre parcel along the waterfront from the local railroad and worked with the Maine Coast Heritage Trust to place a conservation easement on the property. With the easement now in place, and the picnic tables up, the City's harborfront park is a central attraction in Belfast.

- In 1986, the Town of Islesboro completed a shoreline access study funded by a Coastal planning grant. The study determined the legal rights of access at 46 sites in the town, evaluated their potential for use, and provided recommendations for ways to enhance shoreline access. Of the 46 sites, 32 were found to be publicly owned and appropriate for recreational use, docking and anchorage, and commercial access for fishermen and clambers. The town is now working to expand shoreline access opportunities.

CONSERVING AND PROTECTING COASTAL RESOURCES

THROUGH THE WORK OF LOCAL AND STATE government agencies, nonprofit organizations and citizen groups, the Maine Coastal Program has made impressive gains in conserving and protecting natural resources along the state's 3,500-mile shoreline.

Responding to threats posed by extensive shoreline development, the Maine Coastal Program has supported more than 70 municipal efforts to revise, develop and implement comprehensive land use plans and ordinances. Towns like York, Wells, and Ogunquit in Southern Maine, used Coastal Program funds to develop plans and ordinances that would guide their town's rapid growth. Farther downeast, Coastal Program funds were used to plan for new seasonal and year-round development. Bar Harbor, Castine, Ellsworth, Cherryfield, and Calais have all developed comprehensive plans that help set the direction of future growth while protecting critical resources. Every coastal community has obtained

technical assistance from state and regional agencies to address high-priority conservation issues. Through these agencies, the Program has funded staff positions and trained local officials on various coastal management issues.

- In the town of Wells, local citizens took action in 1982 when the 250-acre Laudholm saltwater farm went up for sale. The Laudholm farm is a unique property, with an impressive array of wetlands and upland meadows and a 300-year-old farmstead. The local community raised money from more than 2,000 individuals, corporations, and



*Wells National Estuarine
Research Reserve*

foundations, and successfully qualified for matching grants from the Maine Coastal Program. In 1984, the town purchased the farm, and combined the property with 1,000 acres of the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge and 200 acres of the Laudholm State Park to form the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve. The Reserve provides the public with unsurpassed educational opportunities to learn about coastal ecosystems, and offers marine scientists an area to conduct coastal research. After purchasing the property,

Wells received Program funds to plan how the site should be used by the public. Using this plan, the town constructed overlooks, boardwalks (providing handicapped access), interpretive signs, and six trails so that visitors could appreciate the Reserve's highlights without endangering its fragile ecology.

- The Coastal Program works with municipalities in Maine to study how land development affects their natural resources. The cumulative impacts of incremental development on coastal resources were first discussed in 1978, when the Committee on Coastal Development and Conservation began to consider how increased growth can gradually cause degradation of natural resources such as groundwater, wildlife, and open space.

By the mid 1980s, the State recognized that the cumulative impacts of numerous small projects must be addressed. In 1985, the Program funded a study of nine Southern Maine towns undergoing rapid growth.

The study concluded that only with thorough planning could towns adequately protect vulnerable resources. By establishing measures such as density limits and setbacks in advance of proposed developments, towns could protect their natural resources from cumulative degradation. The recommendations of this Coastal Program study led directly to the growth management legislation, enacted in the spring of 1988,



which requires, among other things, that towns prepare comprehensive plans which meet state standards for protecting natural resources.

- Changes to Maine's core laws have further strengthened the conservation of coastal resources. The 13 core laws underlying Maine's Coastal Program have evolved to meet changing conditions in the state over the last decade. The Water Quality law has been amended to better protect rivers and groundwater; the Coastal Wetlands law now governs sand dunes; and lead, chromium, and sulfur dioxide standards have been set for air pollution. Special setback requirements were incorporated into the State's Site Location of Development law, and outstanding river segments were afforded special protection under the Shoreland Zoning and Alteration of Rivers, Streams, and Brooks laws. Changes to the state's Marine Resources Management law have allowed the Department of Marine Resources to better manage the taking of shellfish and groundfish. In 1988, several state laws were combined into the Natural Resources Protection Act, in order to simplify the application process while simultaneously strengthening the protection of coastal resources.

PROMOTING SOUND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

THE MAINE COASTAL PROGRAM ACTIVELY promotes the development of coastal resources that can provide short- and long-term benefits to the state without jeopardizing the ecological integrity of the coast. Since the earliest European settlers moved to Maine in the 1600s, the coast has been the foundation of the state's economy. While the coastal area occupies only 12 percent of Maine's land area, it contains more than 65 percent of all jobs. With both coastal population and tourism increasing, Maine's coast will continue to have a significant impact on the state's economic well-being.

The goal of the Coastal Program is to balance the appropriate development of the coast with the conservation of fragile or threatened resources. Development initiatives pursued by the Program have, to a large extent, focused on the coast's natural, renewable resources. By placing a priority on maintaining the quality of valuable coastal resources, Maine ensures a solid foundation for its economic development in the future.

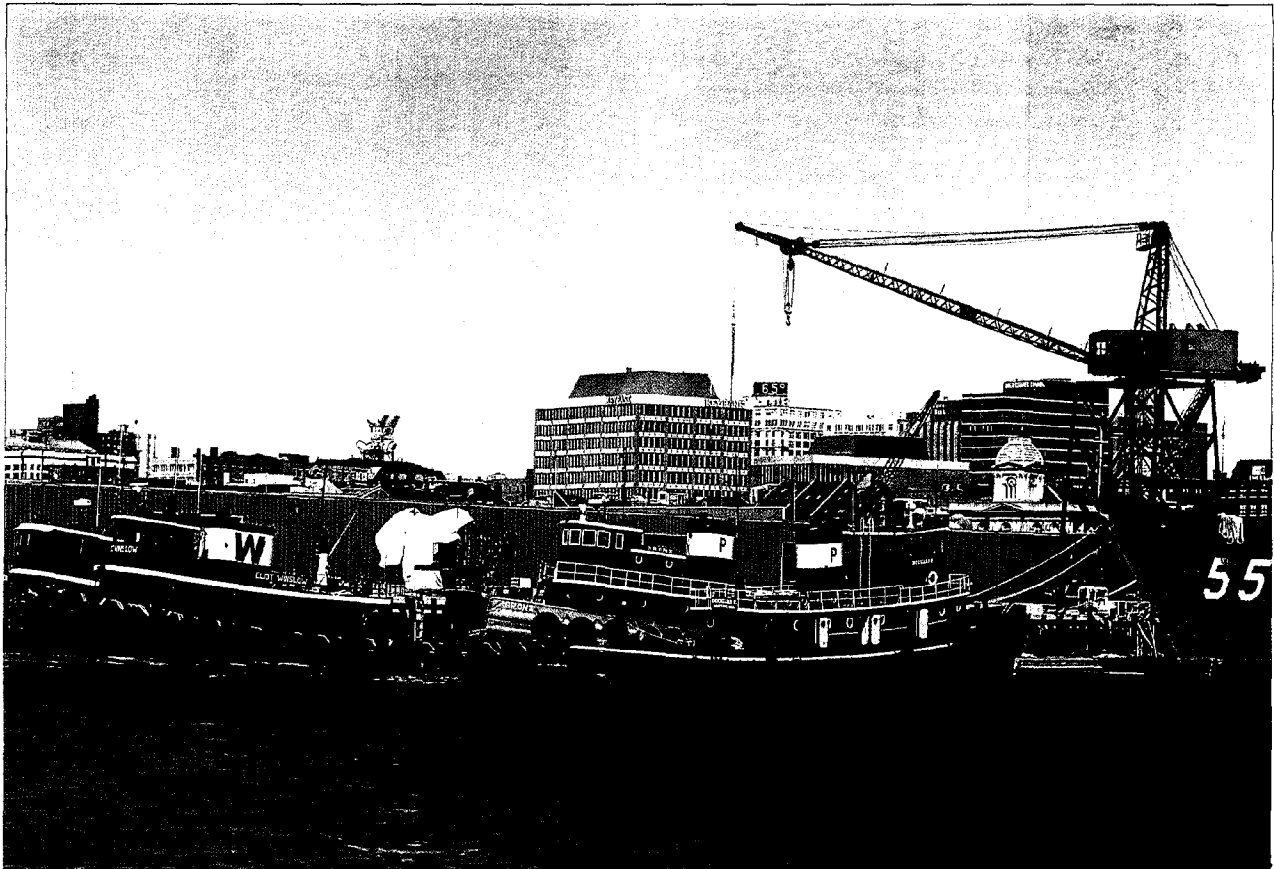
- The Coastal Program has helped enhance the economic strength of Maine's ports through its support for cargo piers. In Eastport, for example, the Coastal Program provided funds for waterfront planning that led to the city's revitalization as an active port. The city



Eastport Cargo Port

- The decision to construct a cargo port in Eastport grew out of Coastal Program studies, done in 1977 and 1978, that analyzed the state's needs and capabilities for cargo ports. These studies determined that Eastport, Searsport, and Portland were ideal sites for new or

undertook feasibility and marketing studies for a cargo-handling facility and decided, on the basis of these studies, to acquire a federally-owned breakwater and convert it to a cargo pier. Further Coastal Program funds helped the city revitalize its downtown area, construct a fish pier, and study the feasibility of establishing a ferry service between Eastport and Lubec.



expanded cargo facilities. A public referendum in 1980 approved \$40 million for cargo port development and work began in Searsport and Eastport. In Portland, the Program successfully coordinated a unique partnership among local, state, and private interests in the construction of the Bath Iron Works ship-repair facility. This \$45 million facility created more than 800 jobs along Portland's waterfront and revitalized a section of the harbor.

- The Coastal Program has assisted municipalities with recreational boating facilities, as well as commercial ones. In the late 1970s, for example, the Coastal Program helped fund a joint waterfront study by the cities of Bangor and Hampden. Based on that study, Bangor decided to upgrade its docking facility in town, and use a 30-acre gravel pit that it owned along Hampden's waterfront for a new marina. Coastal Program funds helped the towns conduct a feasibility study for the marina, design the structure, and assist with its construction. To extend the revitalization of its urban waterfront area for public and private use, Bangor used further Coastal Program grants to restore its historic waterworks facility and construct a riverfront park.

STRENGTHENING FISHERIES AND WATER-DEPENDENT INDUSTRIES

NINETEEN EIGHTY-SIX WAS a watershed year for marine industries along Maine's coast. Citizens successfully convinced their state legislators that state-level action was needed to protect and support water-dependent uses (i.e., those businesses that must be situated on the water in order to function). With little controversy, the legislature established — as a matter of state policy — that water-dependent industries are important to the economy and culture of Maine. The policy states that marine uses — such as boat yards, commercial fishing enterprises, marinas and waterborne commerce — should take priority in shoreline siting decisions over uses that do not rely on the water, such as condominiums and restaurants. It was agreed that without action taken by local governments and state agencies, residential developments would displace water-dependent operations and permanently disable traditional marine industries.

When the Coastal Program began a decade ago, many coastal industries were plagued by



difficulties. Fisheries were being harvested heavily by foreign boats, and catches were declining. Commercial shipping and related shoreside facilities were deteriorating, with piers and wharves rotting away. Several key events stopped this downward spiral. Most important was the Congressional act that extended the U.S. fisheries-conservation area from 3 to 200 miles, banning foreign fishing fleets from waters within 200 miles of Maine's coast. Maine's fisher-

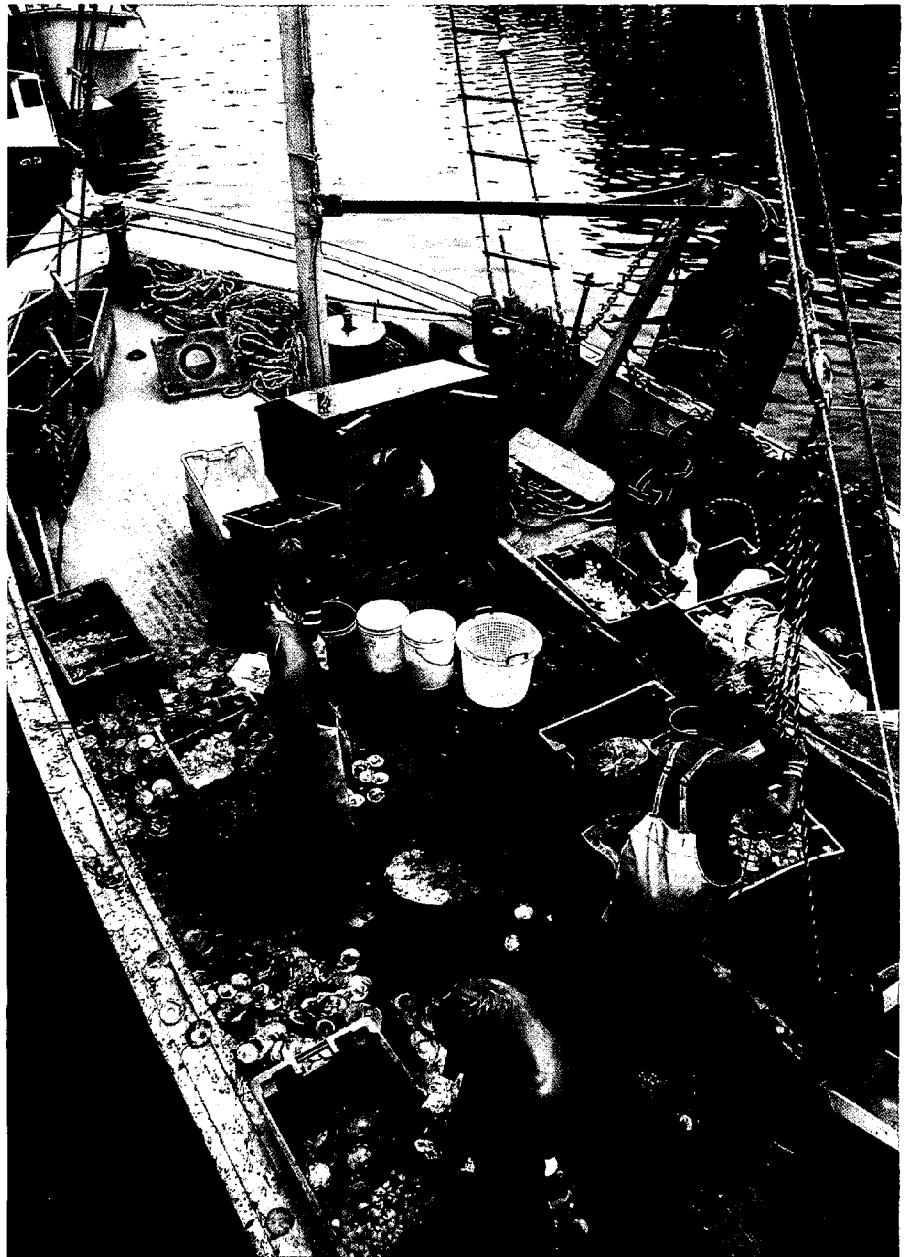
men responded by building larger boats, hiring bigger crews, landing more fish, and increasing rates of processing. Boat yards, in turn, expanded to meet the increased demand for marine service. Confronted with this sudden turnaround, the Coastal Program worked to ensure that shoreside facilities could provide for the increased volume of fish being landed.

- Between 1977 and 1979, the Governor's Coastal Conservation and Development Committee conducted an analysis of Maine's fisheries and on-shore facilities for receiving and processing fish. The study concluded that while there were ample fisheries resources, there were inadequate facilities along the coast for unloading catches. A \$10 million bond issue was passed by public referendum in 1979, providing matching funds for seven new fish

piers in Saco, Kennebunk, Portland, Rockland, Vinalhaven, Stonington, and Eastport. The piers have provided significant economic benefits, with the landed value of fish, in 1986, being \$107,982,000 statewide.

- While the fish pier program provided improved waterfront facilities in several important harbors, fishermen faced new competition for use of the waterfront. By the early 1980s, Maine's rapid economic growth prompted increased recreational boating and numerous plans to build homes, offices, restaurants and retail stores along some of Maine's prime working harbors. As new development raised property values along the water, many traditional industries that depended on the water were priced out of the market. In response to the 1986 state policy decision supporting water-dependent industries, the Coastal Program initiated a mapping project to determine which areas along the coast are best suited for traditional marine industries. Results of the water-dependent use mapping project have helped the Coastal Program provide funds where they are most needed and assist state agencies in reviewing shoreline development proposals.

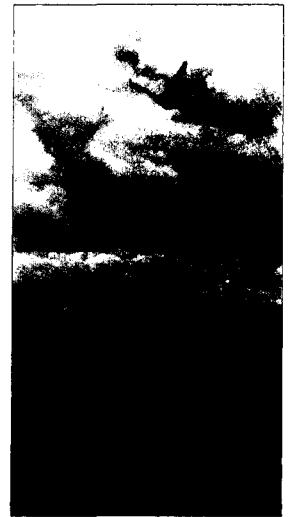
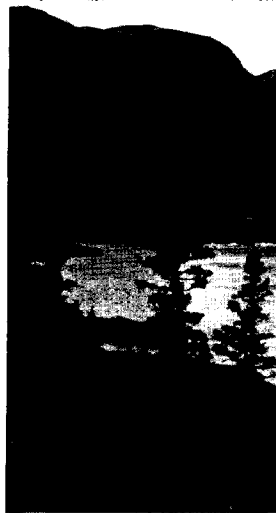
- The Coastal Program has also helped fund a unique cooperative venture among Maine's water-dependent commercial interests. The Maine Marine Alliance was formed in 1988, uniting a diverse spectrum of groups, from marine operators to commercial fishermen, who share a common interest in protecting traditional marine industries. The Alliance seeks to work, in collaboration with local and state government, to strengthen Maine's marine industries by improving marine water quality, increasing shoreline access opportunities, and strengthening water-dependent industries.



LOOKING AHEAD

THE MAINE COASTAL PROGRAM'S FIRST DECADE demonstrated how well the unique federal/state/local partnership in coastal management can work. Over the next decade, Maine will need to strengthen this partnership as we wrestle with new and more complex coastal issues.

Increasingly, as Maine tackles these issues, we must emphasize regional as well as municipal solutions. This section explores some of the issues facing Maine's coastal lands, nearshore waters, and open ocean. These three regions form an ecological and economic continuum, in which action taken in one area affects the other regions. Because of this interdependence, we must manage Maine's coastal area as a continuum, knowing that what happens in coastal watersheds can affect marine life miles out to sea. Working on solutions to coastal issues will involve concurrent efforts to manage watersheds, the water's edge, and the open ocean.



WATERSHEDS:

Municipal Comprehensive Planning and Coastal Resource Management: In 1988, the state legislature enacted a law that requires every Maine town to adopt a comprehensive land use plan based on state standards. The plan will shape a town's land use and zoning ordinances and its fiscal approach to issues such as affordable housing and capital improvements.

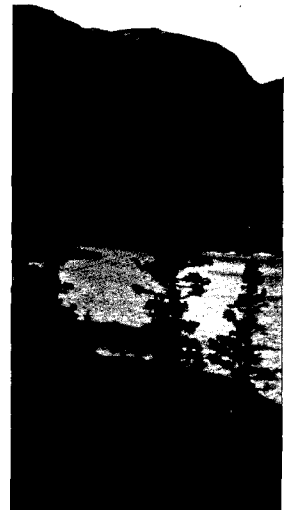
Because Maine's municipalities review most land use and construction proposals, towns are essential partners with the state in stewarding coastal resources. To make this partnership work, municipalities need to devise thorough comprehensive plans that answer current challenges and anticipate future ones. As towns and cities work to adopt plans and ordinances, the state needs to provide financial and technical assistance. Training programs for local officials, such as planning board members and code enforcement officers, will be a critical part of this assistance.

Protecting Significant Natural Areas: Working cooperatively with coastal municipalities, the state has made impressive progress in protecting sensitive, vital ecosystems along Maine's shore. Residents in Maine have clearly voiced their desire to conserve important natural areas in public referenda such as the 1987 bond providing \$35 million to purchase "Land for Maine's Future." The creation of roughly 20 land trusts along the coast during the past 10 years also indicates the commitment of local people to protecting important natural areas of local or regional significance.

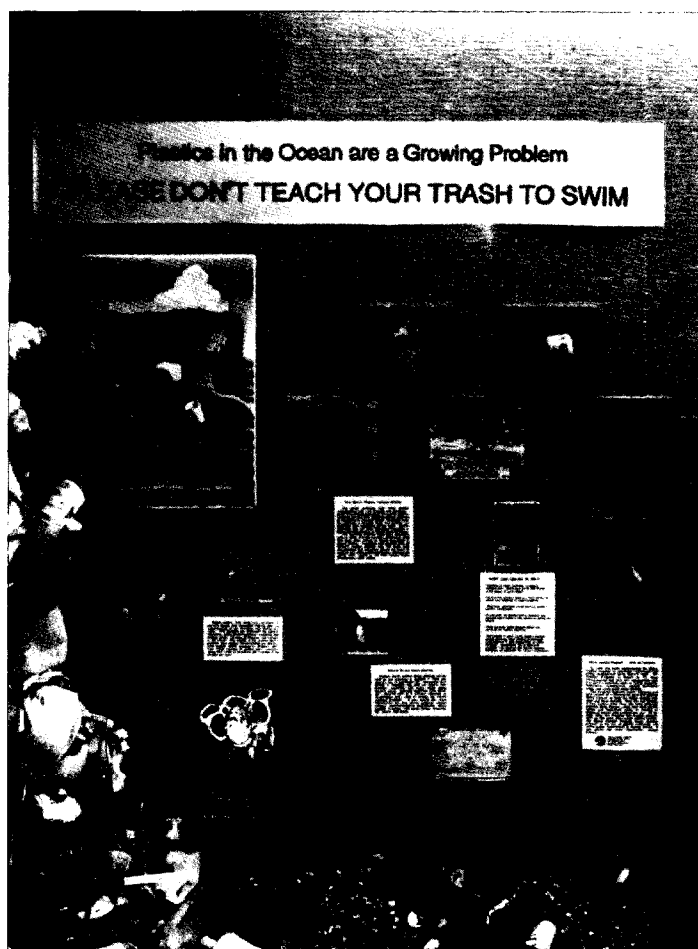
Local and state government needs to continue identifying and protecting significant natural areas threatened by undesirable change. Existing state programs designed to conserve natural areas, flora, and fauna could be enhanced to counter increased pressures from development along Maine's coast. Further research to document the type and location of natural resources would greatly enhance coastal resource management efforts.

Environmental Threats: Recent scientific studies indicate that acid rain is damaging coastal ecosystems. A product of fossil fuel combustion, acid rain promotes algal growth that robs marine life of light and oxygen necessary for survival. The New England states must work collaboratively to reduce the levels of airborne contaminants throughout the region.

The safe disposal of solid and hazardous waste in the coastal region will become increasingly difficult as population increases and available disposal sites are filled. Increased population in coastal areas places heightened pressure on the amount of surface and groundwater resources, and development may cause more waters to become contaminated. The state and municipalities will need to vigorously enforce existing environmental laws and work to educate the public about the threats posed by increasing development.



Public Education and Involvement in Resource Management Issues: As population and development pressures along the coast grow, the need for public education becomes more critical. State agencies need to develop more outreach programs, educational displays, and publications to inform local citizens about natural resource issues and relevant environmental



*Maine Coastal Program
Educational Display*

laws. The state could encourage the formation of citizen monitoring programs that encourage local stewardship of coastal resources, such as rivers and harbors. More technical assistance materials, such as handbooks on shoreland management, could be produced for coastal communities faced with local concerns. Working closely with nonprofit organizations and private businesses, the state could also help augment existing environmental educational programs.

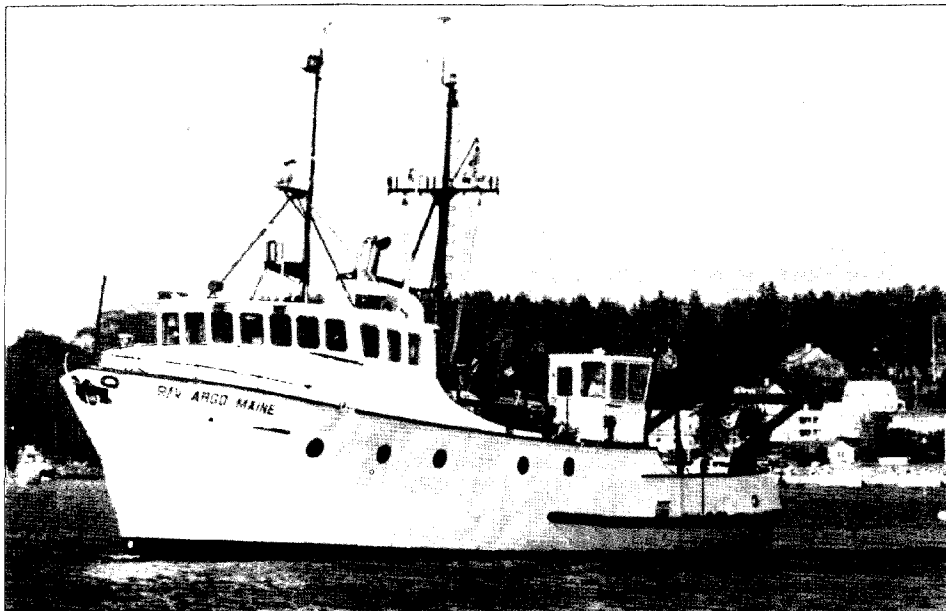
Strengthening the Coastal Economy: In 1987, the state formulated an economic development strategy for Maine with specific recommendations for the coast. Central to this strategy is the need to actively manage our natural resources and assure that adequate public facilities are available to support appropriate economic development initiatives. The state needs to work collaboratively with coastal industries and organizations like the Maine Marine Alliance to foster promising economic development activities such as aquaculture.

AT THE EDGE OF THE SEA:

Management of Marine Water Quality: Few issues demonstrate the ecological continuum of the coast more clearly than marine pollution. While the quality of Maine's marine waters is still quite high, recent scientific findings point toward rising levels of contaminants from a wide range of sources. Toxic substances are washing into Maine's water from urban and agricultural runoff, atmospheric pollution, and sewage overflow. While the 1987 overboard discharge law bans new residential discharges into marine waters and will phase out many existing systems, the state needs to help communities upgrade municipal systems and prevent stormwater overload. The state must look towards controlling "non-point" sources of pollution, such as runoff from farmfields, parking lots, and rooftops. These ubiquitous sources of marine contamination will require broad-based changes in land use planning, such as the use of detention basins and buffer strips.

The state has begun an educational effort to better inform residents and visitors about the hazards of plastic debris in the marine environment. In the years ahead, plastic recycling programs need to be promoted, and better dockside facilities need to be provided for waste disposal from vessels.

The state could cooperate with the federal government to fund and implement a thorough marine research and monitoring program so that incipient pollution problems can be detected and resolved before serious harm is done to Maine's marine environment.



*Maine's new marine
research vessel
ARGO-MAINE*

Harbor Management and Water-dependent Industries: In response to rapid and unplanned development, the state legislature directed state agencies and municipalities to implement strategies that would protect traditional marine industries within Maine's ports and harbors. The management of ports and harbors ties directly into Maine's larger discussion of sound growth management: during the years ahead, harbor management policies will shape how Maine's coastline is used. In developing comprehensive plans and ordinances, local governments will play a critical role in determining uses of their waterfronts. The state needs to encourage towns to support water-dependent industries through long-range planning, zoning decisions, and local capital improvements. These activities will help assure that the cultural and social heritage of coastal Maine is maintained.

Aquaculture: Since aquaculture first became established along Maine's coast during the early 1970s, it has held tremendous economic promise for the state. Important technological advances in the past 15 years have allowed the aquaculture industry to expand dramatically. Faced with declining wild fish stocks, Maine needs to promote aquaculture in the years ahead, while taking steps to insure that the industry is compatible with existing fish-

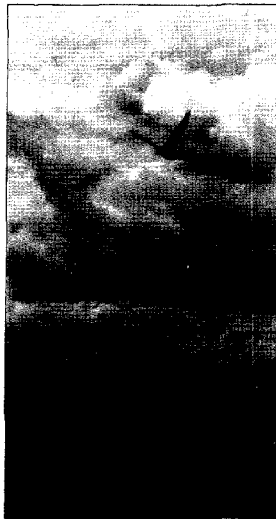
eries and does not harm the marine environment. The industry's expansion will depend on an active, well-funded research and development program to help improve the variety, volume, and quality of aquaculture products.



Shellfish Hatchery

Coastal flooding: Sea level is rising steadily, and Maine needs to make difficult decisions about how it will adapt to this change. As sea level increases and the shoreline retreats, Maine will face increased coastal erosion and flooding, saltwater intrusion into coastal aquifers, and loss of coastal structures and recreational facilities. The State should consider the implications of sea level rise in its permitting and funding decisions that affect coastal resources.

Island Environments and Culture: Maine's islands, once thought to be free from the development pressures on the mainland, are particularly susceptible to environmental damage. Their fragile, self-contained ecosystems will require special management efforts in the future. Drinking water, the continuation of viable year-round communities, and solid waste disposal are three vital issues that presently concern many of Maine's islands.



BLUE WATER

Gulf of Maine Initiative: One of the world's most productive seas, the Gulf of Maine has provided coastal Maine with plentiful marine resources. The wealth of the Gulf has fostered economic growth and development along Maine's shores for 300 years. While the Gulf continues to offer a wide range of opportunities for recreation and economic development, growing population and pollution are beginning to strain its resources, making clear the need for sound management. The Gulf of Maine will retain its health and productivity only as long as we manage it responsibly. Stewardship of the Gulf poses an unusual challenge in that two nations, three states (Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts) and two provinces (Nova Scotia and New Brunswick) all border on the Gulf's single ecosystem. Developing a long-term strategy that can address pollution abatement, fisheries management, energy production, wetlands protection, and sea level rise in the Gulf will be a challenge. As the different governments become accustomed to working together, the prospects for successfully managing the Gulf's unique resources will be enhanced.

A sound management strategy for the Gulf of Maine will rely on thorough scientific data documenting the Gulf's diverse resources. Maine needs to work with the other states and provinces around the Gulf to conduct thorough, ongoing research into the physical, chemical, and biological properties of this water body. When more is known about its resources, a bilateral management program can be developed to sustain and strengthen its resources.



FOR CENTURIES, Maine has drawn its strength , livelihood, and character from the sea. While the nature of our relationship to the sea has changed over the years, and continues to evolve, our philosophical, economic, and environmental connections to the ocean remain a critical part of our heritage. By strengthening our commitment to the sound management of coastal resources, we can ensure that future generations will enjoy the cultural and ecological integrity of Maine's coast.

SOUTHERN COAST

Arundel
Biddeford
Cape Elizabeth
Cumberland
Eliot
Falmouth
Freeport
Kennebunk
Kennebunkport
Kittery
Ogunquit
Old Orchard Beach
Portland
Saco
Scarborough
South Berwick
South Portland
Wells
Yarmouth
York

MID-COAST

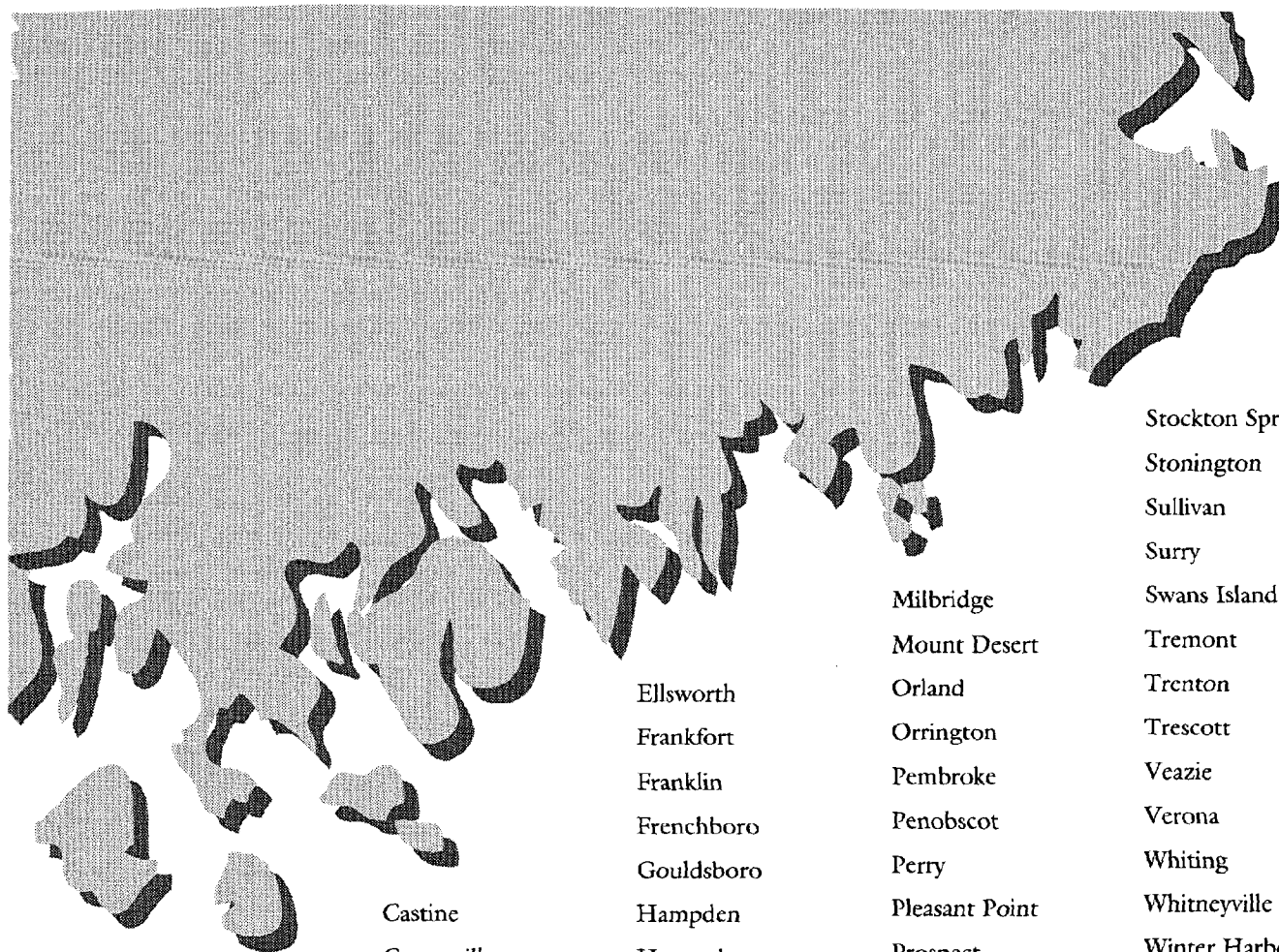
Alna
Arrowsic
Augusta
Bath
Belfast
Boothbay
Boothbay Harbor
Bowdoinham
Bremen
Bristol
Brunswick
Camden
Chelsea
Crichaven
Cushing
Damariscotta
Dresden
Edgecomb
Farmingdale
Friendship

Gardiner
Georgetown
Hallowell
Harpwell
Isle au Haut
Islesboro
Lincolnville
Matinicus
Monhegan
Newcastle
Nobleboro
North Haven
Northport
Owls Head
Perkins Twp.
Phippsburg
Pittston
Randolph
Richmond

Rockland
Rockport
Searsport
South Bristol
South Thomaston
Southport
St. George
Thomaston
Topsham
Vinalhaven
Waldoboro
Warren
West Bath
Westport
Wiscasset
Woolwich



COASTAL MUNICIPALITIES IN MAINE



DOWNEAST

Addison

Bangor

Bar Harbor

Beals

Blue Hill

Brewer

Brooklin

Brooksville

Bucksport

Calais

Castine

Centerville

Cherryfield

Columbia

Columbia Falls

Cranberry Isles

Cutler

Deer Isle

Dennysville

East Machias

Eastport

Eddington

Edmonds

Ellsworth

Frankfort

Franklin

Frenchboro

Gouldsboro

Hampden

Hancock

Harrington

Jonesboro

Jonesport

Lamoine

Lubec

Machias

Machiasport

Marion

Marshfield

Milbridge

Mount Desert

Orland

Orrington

Pembroke

Penobscot

Perry

Pleasant Point

Prospect

Robbinston

Roque Bluffs

Sedgewick

Sorrento

Southwest Harbor

Steuben

Stockton Springs

Stonington

Sullivan

Surry

Swans Island

Tremont

Trenton

Trescott

Veazie

Verona

Whiting

Whitneyville

Winter Harbor

Winterport

T7SD

T8SD

T9SD

T10SD



APPENDIX A: KEY CONCEPTS

Coastal Management: The planning, development, conservation, and regulation of coastal resources by federal, state, regional, and local governments.

Coastal Resources: The state's coastal waters and adjacent shorelands, their natural resources and habitats, which together form an integrated terrestrial, estuarine, and marine ecosystem.

Coastal Region: The coastal area includes all townships that border on the ocean or tidal waters, and extends seaward for 3 miles, to the outer limits of U.S. territorial waters. In Maine, the coastal region includes 152 townships.

Cumulative Impact: The incremental effects of numerous small development projects whose individual effects are minimal but whose collective impact can be significant.

Federal Consistency: Under the terms of the original Coastal Zone Management Act, enacted by Congress in 1972, a state with a federally approved program (such as Maine's) can require all federal activities in the coastal region to be consistent with state law. This means that federal activities such as dredging of harbors or funding of municipal sewage treatment plants must meet the state's land use and environmental protection regulations. Before the Maine Coastal Program was implemented in 1978, the federal government could pursue activities along the coast that violated state environmental laws.

Local financial and technical assistance: The Coastal Program provides a wide variety of technical and financial assistance to Maine's 152 coastal communities. Assistance is given with: shoreland zoning, comprehensive and environmental planning, recreational site planning and development, coastal erosion and hazard mitigation; and shoreline access management.

Shore Access: All people in Maine, residents and visitors alike, should be able to reach the shoreline, whether they are there for recreational or commercial purposes. Shoreline access for the public includes perpendicular access (e.g., from a public road across public property to the shoreline) and parallel access (e.g., public land that parallels the shore). Facilities at a shore access site may range from a simple walkway to a fully serviced state park.

Submerged Lands: All lands stretching seaward 3 miles from the low-water mark: they are owned and regulated by the state.

Water-dependent Uses: Marine uses that must be located along the shore or in coastal waters in order to operate are known as water-dependent uses. These uses range from commercial fish piers and boatyards to industrial waterborne commerce.

APPENDIX B: MAINE COASTAL PROGRAM'S PRIMARY PARTICIPANTS

Maine State Planning Office houses the Maine Coastal Program, which assists coastal towns with planning, helps develop coastal policies for the state, and helps educate the public concerning coastal issues. The Program assists municipal efforts to enhance shore access, reduce marine pollution, and preserve working waterfronts. The Critical Areas Program, a division of the State Planning Office, has received Coastal Program funds to document and encourage the voluntary conservation of nearly 300 sites along Maine's coast.

Department of Economic and Community Development houses the Office of Comprehensive Land Use Planning which administers local planning grants to coastal towns. The Office also administers a regional program of coastal coordinators and offers technical assistance to communities on coastal issues such as public access and working waterfronts.

Department of Environmental Protection administers laws affecting coastal wetlands, sand dunes, overboard discharges of treated wastewater, oil pollution, and site location approval of major developments.

Department of Marine Resources has divisions responsible for marine education (elementary through high school students), fisheries technologies, seafood quality management marketing, marine research, marine resource protection, and enforcement of boating laws along the coast.

Department of Conservation has four bureaus involved in coastal resource projects. The Bureau of Parks and Recreation acquires and manages recreational areas for Maine residents, including coastal parks and boat access sites. The Bureau of Public Lands holds title to approximately 900 state-owned islands and governs activities in Maine's submerged lands. The Maine Geological Survey helps study coastal geology and identify coastal areas prone to erosion and storm damage. The Land Use Regulation Commission has jurisdiction over unorganized territories along Maine's coast.

Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife acquires land that will foster its goal of managing the state's wildlife: at present, it manages about 200 wildlife sites.

Municipal Governments are responsible for enforcing the shoreland zoning act, coordinating the planning process, and initiating waterfront improvement projects.

Regional Planning Councils provide technical assistance, community development assistance, and planning services to local governments within their region. In the coastal areas the regional planning councils include the Eastern Mid-coast Planning Commission, Greater Portland Council of Governments, Hancock County Regional Planning Commission, Lincoln County Planning and Resource Office, Penobscot Valley Council of Governments, Southern Kennebec Planning and Development Commission, Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission, Southern Mid-coast Council of Governments, and Washington County Regional Planning Commission.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management is the federal agency responsible for implementing aspects of the 1972 Coastal Zone Management Act, through which the Maine Coastal Program was established.

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Writing/Editing: David Keeley, Maine Coastal Program Director; and Flis Schaffler, Maine Coastal Program Communications Coordinator

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MAINE COASTAL PROGRAM

Maine State Planning Office
State House Station 38
Augusta, ME 04333
207/289-3261